

# Post Boy

Connecting and supporting stamp collectors, of all ages and interests, in Northern Nevada since 1975



October 2024  
Volume 57, Issue 10

In-person & Virtual meetings 2nd & 4th Saturday starting at 10:00 A.M.  
Silverada Estates Clubhouse, 2301 Oddie Blvd, Reno ([map](#))

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## Announcements

### Meetings -

**Oct. 12** - In person and online Zoom meeting starts at 10 a.m. After announcements, committee reports and raffle, there is a live auction. Members can have 5 auction lots; more can be added up to total of 60 lots.

**Oct. 26** - In person and online Zoom meeting starts at 10 a.m. After announcements, committee reports and raffle, the presentation topic is "Antarctic: Land of Wonders" by **Jeanne Paquin**. Members can have up to 10 lots on the consignment table. Extra lots may be added as lots are sold.

**NO online auction in October.** The September online auction only had 4 sellers and 6 buyers with 16 of 43 lots selling. Interest seems to be slowing.

Since the online auctions started in 2022, the gross sales were \$20,809 with \$5,562 going to the stamp club. Auction lots included member material and donations.

**November 9** - Auction Bucks Auction - Get your donations of garage & yard-sale type items ready for this fun meeting.

**December 14** - Holiday/Christmas Party - Family and social event.



The stamp club has a two-frame stamp collecting display at the Vassar Post Office to help celebrate Stamp Collecting Month & Nevada Day.

## Post Boy Reporter

**Sept. 14 meeting - Erik Fields** arrived early to set up the tables and chairs. Attendance was 26 members including one on Zoom and one guest. Refreshments were provided by **Howard Grenzebach**.

President **James Steckley** introduced new members **Phoebe and Mike Price** who joined at the stamp show in July. He discussed a recent British Empire Study Group Zoom presentation he recently attended. He showed the USPS new stamp issues for September. The last printed issue of Linn's stamp News was shown (might become a collectible). It was the 5,000 issue of Linn's; only weekly digital issues are available now. Scott Stamp Monthly will continue with both printed and digital issues.

Donation Chair **James Steckley** had a call from a gentleman in CT who donated covers with a Reno origin or event. **Nadiah Beekun** re-donated an album and a 13 pound box of used stamps. Previously donated Scott International albums will be in today's live auction. Jeannie Mc Farland donated some stamps and covers before the meeting today.

Membership Chair **Mike Potter** reported 52 members have renewed so far. August is membership renewal month. Magnetic name badges are available for \$7.95: free for new members.

Editor **John Walter** gave a report on September's Post Boy, the original articles and **Eric Moody's** quiz "Days at the Beach." **Will Eubanks** volunteered to be the new editor starting in January. Webmaster **John Walter** gave a brief report on the club website.

Program Chair **Dave Gehringer** is looking for meeting presentations starting in January. Treasurer and Stamp Show Chair **Erik Fields** reported the date for the next Reno stamp show – July 26-27, 2025 at the same venue, the National Bowling Stadium.

**George Ray** conducted the raffle with 10 prizes and a bonus prize won by **Eric Moody**. The money prize of \$11 was won by **Scott Mathews**.

The live auction had 57 member lots and 15 donated lots. The auctioneers were **Gary Atkinson** and **Mike Potter** with help from **Nadiah Beekun, Howard Kadohiro and Dave Stafford**. **Erik Fields** and **Steve Foster** helped with the lot accounting. A total 41 member lots sold for \$445.50 and all the donated lots sold for \$993.00. One donated U.S. National album sold for \$575.00 with many premium older stamps.

**Sept. 28 meeting** – The room was set up by **Erik Fields**. **James Steckley** provided the refreshments. The attendance was 24 in-person and 2 members via Zoom. The AV equipment was set up by **John Walter** with assistance of **Harvey Edwards**.

President **James Steckley** reminded everyone that 2022 Scott Catalogues, including the U.S. Specialized, are available to members. Any catalogue can be checked out from one meeting to the next. Some more donations were received including large numbers of stamp panes, plate blocks and sheets (some stuck to glassine backing). They will be available for in-person meeting auctions since the cost to ship for an online auction would be prohibitive. There are also some commemorative year sets for a future auction.

Membership Chair **Mike Potter** reported 61 members have renewed their membership so far.

**George Ray** sold the raffle tickets for 10 prizes, a bonus prize (**Kent Tucker**) and 50-50 money (\$12 to **Eugene Smoots**).

The presentation was about the 2024 Great American Stamp Show held in Hartford, CT, Aug. 14-18. **John Walter** had lots of slides about the show and discussed many of his purchases including: Advertising covers, Fancy Cancels, U.S. Stationery sent overseas, U.S. Airmail Transport via Goodyear Blimp (from ship to shore) and "Man With Wings" delivered cover from "plane to earth" and signed by the individual.

Also discussed were 5 U.S. aerograms sent overseas, Ludwig Staehle and Walter Crosby cachet covers from the 1930s and 40s, U.S. Frigate Constitution cancel with first day of post office in 1931, Hawaii Islands Clipper Air Mail covers, U.S. Special Delivery covers, and a few other covers that had meaning since John lived in Japan for 3½ years and then on Guam for 2 years.

John hit the motherlode for many of these covers from a Queens, NY dealer he dealt with 2 years ago when he sold his P.R. China collection.

Some of these covers and their stories will be featured in Post Boy articles starting with this issue.

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## New Member Profiles



**Phoebe and Mike Price** joined the club at the July stamp show while participating in a bowling tournament at the National Bowling Stadium.

They joined the club to gather information about stamp collecting to start going through a collection they inherited.

Phoebe's great grandfather retired from the post office in Auburn, CA and her grandfather collected stamps all his life.

Mike and Phoebe also collect coins, all things Disney, magic the gathering cards and foreign money.

Phoebe and Mike live in Auburn, CA.

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**David Stafford** joined the stamp club in August. He provided the following collecting interests: stamps, postcards, covers, Nevada material, and enjoys photography.

Dave promised a more comprehensive profile for the next Post Boy.

In the meantime, he provided information on some historical aspects of past Reno stamp dealers and a few pictures.

Dave does not have email, so have to wait for in-person meetings to obtain more information.

## Out of the Past

By David Safford

I came across some photos of old-time stamp dealers in Reno. Here are their stories:

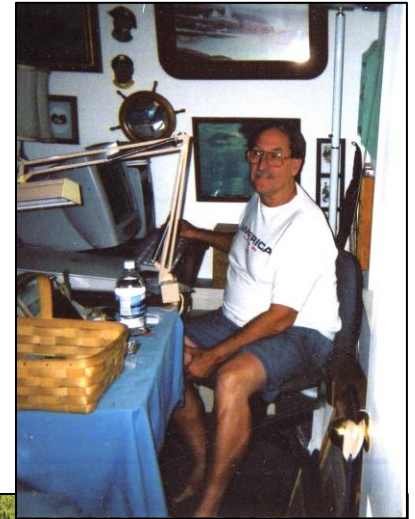
**Ralph Lewis** was a postcard and antique dealer. He was a mail carrier in Reno for 25 years. His retail store was on the corner of Liberty and California Streets, downtown Reno. He moved to Depoe Bay, Oregon to retire, but then opened the *Time Capsule Antiques and More* store with his wife, Maria. The address is 3560 N Highway 101, Ste 2, Depoe Bay, OR 97341.

The website yelp.com has some interesting comments from tourists shopping at his store.



<https://www.yelp.com/biz/time-capsule-antiques-and-more-depoe-bay> Photos taken by Jane M. in June 2024.

“This store offers a one-of-a-kind experience. Visitors can explore diverse coin and postcard collections, admire stoneware, and lose themselves in the magic of vintage finds.”



On the right is Roger when he lived in Reno.



**Roger Lauderdale** in his stamp shop in Reno, c. 2002. His first store was on Arlington & California Streets which he opened in 1972. He worked as an auditor at Harrah’s Club in Reno before retiring. He still had his stamp store when he passed away in 2006.



I (Dave Stafford) became a postcard dealer in 1972 when Roger suggested to me about having postcard auctions in a publication called “*Barr’s Postcard News & Ephemera*,” Roger supplied the postcards and paid for the advertising. How could I refuse that offer? I only did 3 auctions. I had over 5,000 people sending their want lists to me. I told Roger let us just start sending the cards to these people on approval instead of waiting a month for our auction to close in *Barr’s*. He agreed. In return if I bought any Nevada material, I would show it to Roger first to see if he wanted to buy it. He collected Nevada postcards and post-

marks.

We became partners in the material that I bought at auctions, antique shows and yard sales. He also bought items at show, etc., that we were partners in. He was a great and honest guy who I learned a lot from.

After Roger’s passing, I received all of his reference books and material and donated some to the Nevada Stamp Study Society via Dick Dreiling.

## Walter G. Crosby Cachet Cover – U.S.S. Wright

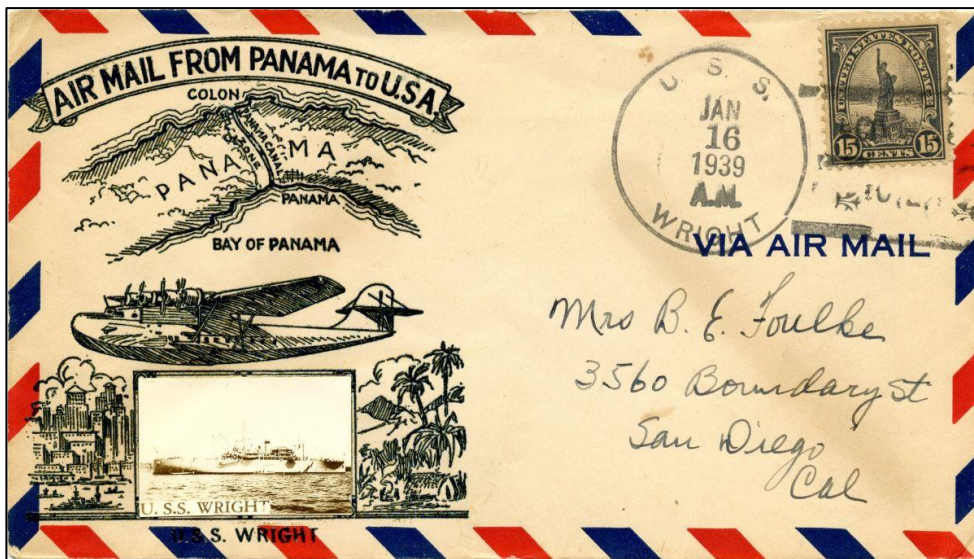
By John Walter

Being a member of the Universal Ship Cover Society I've seen and read about unique cachet covers made by Walter Crosby. While browsing through a cover box at the Great American Stamp Show, I found some Crosby covers.

I previously dealt with this particular dealer from Queens, NY when he came to my home in Reno, NV and bought my P.R. China collection in 2022. On the first day of the show, I asked if he had U.S. aerogrammes sent to overseas destinations. He told me he did not bring that material, but he would go home that evening (about 2½ hour drive) and have it the next day. When talking with him the next day he told me the two U.S. cover boxes "have not seen the light of day in many years."

I found many interesting covers (about 50) which I only touched on at the stamp club presentation on Sept. 28. I wanted to write about some of the covers and will start with the *U.S.S. Wright* cover.

Walter Gaylord Crosby, (1881-1947) was a pioneering cachetmaker starting in the late 1920s until his death. His unique cachets, often adorned with thermographic printing and small black and white photographs, set him apart and made his work easily recognizable. Crosby's cachets are highly regarded by collectors, and he was voted the top cachetmaker of the 1930s by members of the American First Day Cover Society.

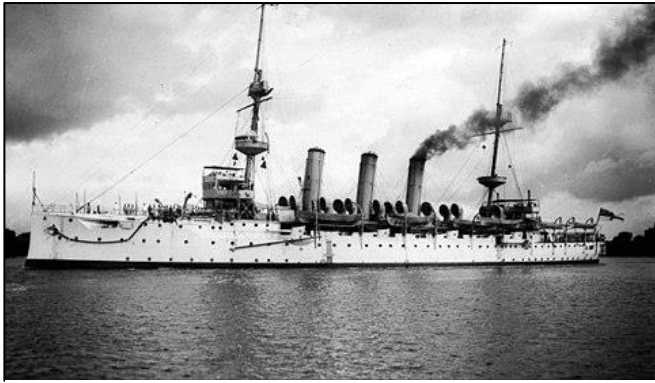


This cover is from the *U.S.S. Wright* with a 15¢ Statue of Liberty stamp issued Nov. 11, 1922. The cachet has thermographic printing and a B/W photo. It shows a Clipper plane with a map of Panama and the Panama Canal. The cancel is a Locy Type 3 with the right-side location cancel smudged.

The cover was sent by B.E. Foulke, U.S.S. Wright, San Diego, Cal (crew member) to (probably his wife) Mrs. B.E. Foulke in San Diego where the ship was based.

I was interested in more history about the ship. Originally named *USAT Somme*, she was named "Wright" on April 20, 1920, and launched on April 28. A little over two months later, the Navy signed a contract to convert the ship to a unique type of auxiliary vessel, a "combined lighter-than-air/heavier-than-air aviation tender." On July 17, 1920, the ship received that classification and was designated AZ-1. *USS Wright* was commissioned at the New York Navy Yard on December 16, 1921.

On Dec. 2, 1926, she was reclassified as AV-1, Aircraft Tender. Her initial assignments were spent on the West Coast sailing from San Diego to Alaska.



Here is a larger photo of the U.S.S. Wright AV-1.

At the time of this cover Jan. 16, 1939, the tender departed San Diego on January 2, 1939 to participate in winter maneuvers in the Caribbean with her aviation units and took part in Fleet Problem XX.

Fleet Problem XX took place in February 1939 in the Caribbean and Atlantic, and observed in person by President Franklin Roosevelt. The exercise simulated the defense of the East Coast of the United States and Latin America. Participating in the maneuvers were 134 ships, 600 planes, and over 52,000 officers and men.

The seaplane tender returned to the West Coast soon thereafter, as part of the general movement of the fleet from Atlantic to Pacific. She was back at San Diego on May 16, 1939.

*USS Wright* operated out of that port until September 10, 1939, when she sailed for the Hawaiian Islands to become flagship for PatWing 2, based at Pearl Harbor. Arriving there on 19 September (less than three weeks after the outbreak of war in Europe).

I was going to stop the cover story at this point. Then I found more interesting information, so I continued the research.

## Early World War II

*USS Wright* spent 1939 to 1941 supporting the establishment of aviation bases on Midway, Canton, Johnston, Palmyra, and Wake Islands. She transported Marines and aviation personnel, as well as construction workers and contractors, between those bases, time and again landing cargo that ranged from construction materials to gasoline and ordnance supplies and other advance base gear. In September 1941, *USS Wright* was selected as the flagship of PatWing 1, Aircraft, Scouting Force.

*USS Wright* departed Pearl Harbor on November 20, 1941, bound for Wake Island, arriving at that advanced base on the 28th, and landed Comdr. Winfield S. Cunningham, who took command of the naval activities on the island.

Other passengers who went ashore from the seaplane tender included asphalt technicians, other construction workers, and Marine Corps officers. The ship also delivered 63,000 gallons of gasoline to Wake's storage tanks before setting course for Midway. There, she delivered a cargo that included ammunition and disembarked passengers that included men reporting for duty at the Naval Air Station and with other Marine Corps ground units. Then, with military and civilian passengers embarked, *USS Wright* departed Midway on December 4, 1941, and headed for Pearl Harbor.

During the night of December 6/7, 1941, while sailing toward Pearl Harbor at night, the crew spotted an aircraft carrier that overtook it as it sailed toward Hawaii. Whether *USS Wright* radioed a report of the sighting or not is unclear, but even if they had, the report was not recognized for what it was—an actual sighting of one of the Japanese aircraft carriers just hours prior to the attack, and the only such sighting made by an American Naval asset.

The sighting was recalled by a former member of the crew serving on *USS Wright* named Sherwin Callander. As an elderly gentleman in 2019, while being interviewed for a video, unexpectedly he recalled, "A carrier passed us, going in the same direction. We were headin' back to Pearl and they were headin' towards Pearl too. And we knew it was a carrier -- it was at night -- but we didn't know what nationality it was. Then the next morning, we heard over the news broadcast that they attacked Pearl Harbor. When we pulled into Pearl Harbor, I'd never seen such a mess in my life. I even had to pull bodies out of the water."

The following morning, while on route to Pearl Harbor, the electrifying news was received that the Japanese had attacked Pearl Harbor that morning December 7, 1941. Word of the attack arrived shortly after 0800 that day, and *USS Wright* cleared for action and manned her battle stations. Fortunately for her, she did not cross the path of the returning Japanese strike force. After reaching Pearl Harbor the day after the Japanese attack, *USS Wright* got underway on December 19 to transport 126 Marines of the 4th Defense Battalion, with their gear, to Midway. She returned to Pearl Harbor on the day after Christmas with 205 civilians.

She survived WWII, earning two battle stars and was decommissioned in 1946.

Sometimes you never know where the story of a cover will take you.

- References:  
[https://www.navalcovermuseum.org/wiki/Cachet\\_Maker\\_Walter\\_G\\_Crosby\\_Page\\_5](https://www.navalcovermuseum.org/wiki/Cachet_Maker_Walter_G_Crosby_Page_5) - This cover is not listed in the Crosby covers for 1939.
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS\\_Wright\\_%28AV-1%29](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USS_Wright_%28AV-1%29)
- <https://uscs.org/crosby-walter-g/> - Nice bio on Walter Crosby.

**John Walter** collects U.S. used postal stationery, U.S. naval covers from hospital ships, and Japan.

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### Live club auction on Sept. 12, 2024



These 12 donated albums made for a very lively auction. A total of \$993.00 went to the club just from the donated items.

On the right is **Gary Atkinson** holding a steamer trunk which eventually went to **Will Eubanks** after many bids.

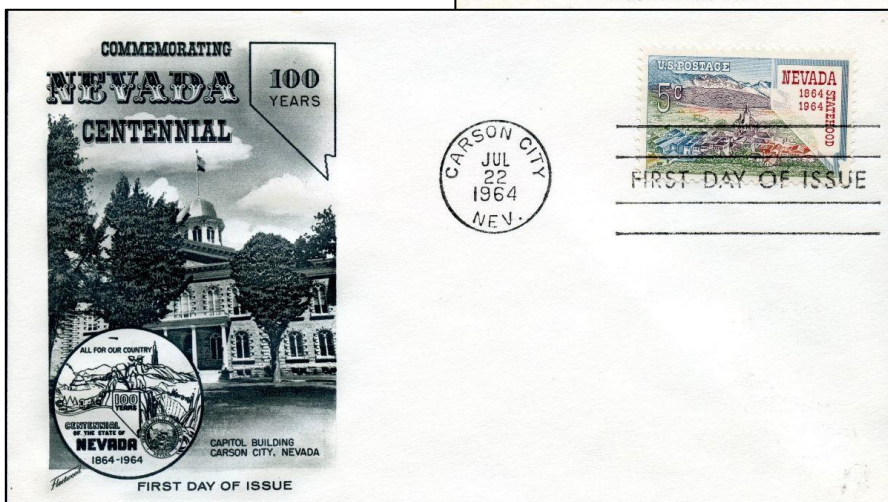
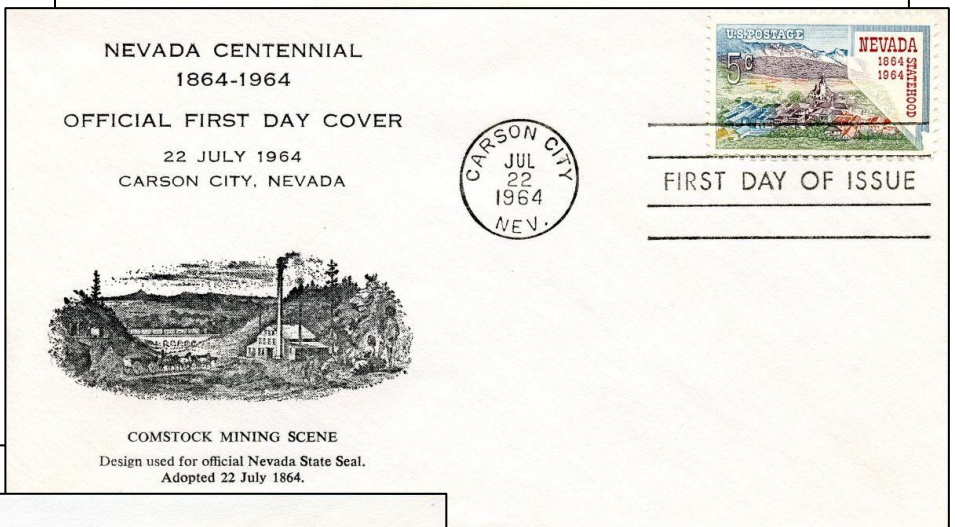
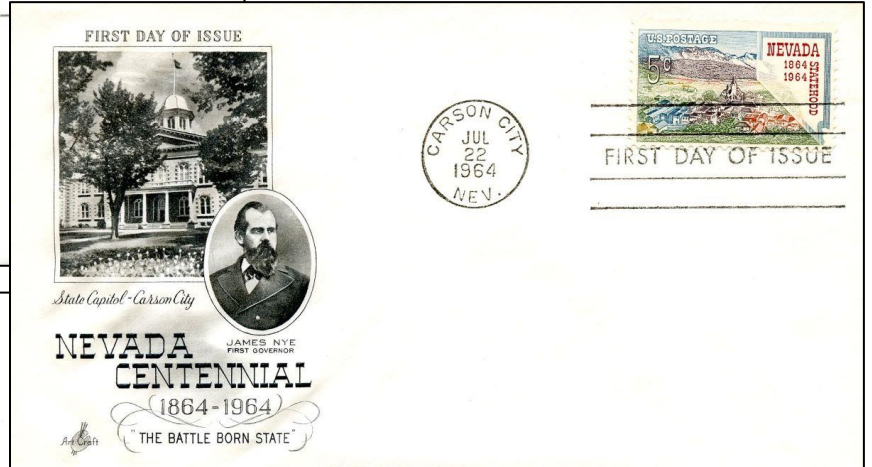
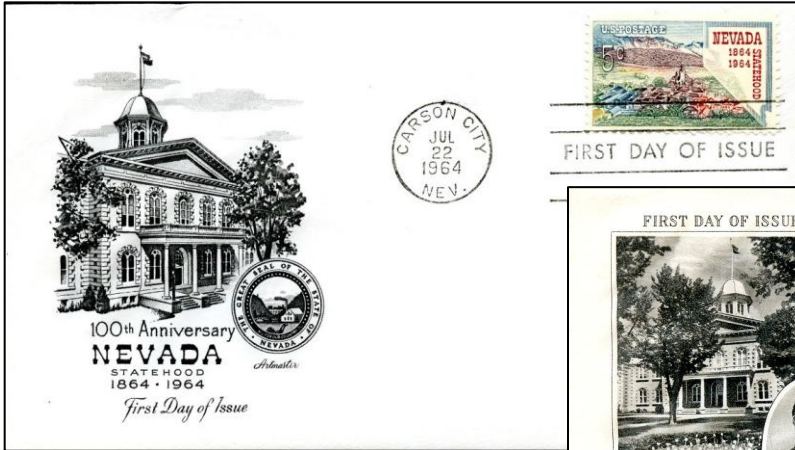


# Navada Day Covers

By John Walter

While looking through material to display at the Vassar post office, I noticed these nice first-day-covers commemorating the 100th Anniversary of statehood. What really caught my eye was the July 22 date, my birthday, but wrong year. In 1964 I already completed my first year of college in New York.

I enjoyed the different cachets bringing the anniversary and state information to everyone's attention.



## October Quiz – Castles

By Eric Moody

1. Overlooking the scenic Our River, the medieval castle of Vianden is the most famous such structure in this country, which first featured it on a stamp (#126) in 1921.  
(a) France (b) Hungary (c) Luxembourg (d) Austria
2. Actually, a fortress, not a castle, the Castillo San Felipe del Morro (“Morro Castle”) was completed in 1787 and is a U.S. National Historic Site. Featured, in part, on a 1971 stamp (#1437) it is located in  
(a) New Mexico (b) California (c) California (d) Puerto Rico
3. Neuschwanstein, a spectacular castle erected in the late 19<sup>th</sup> century in the forested mountains of this former kingdom, now a German state, has been featured on the stamps of Germany (#1460, 1796) and numerous other countries, including the U.S. (a 2013 Zazzle.com personalized issue). The famous castle is located in  
(a) Baden (b) Saxony (c) Prussia (d) Bavaria
4. In 1988 Great Britain issued a set of stamps (#1230-1233) that featured photos of castles (Windsor, Caernarfon, Edinburgh, Carrickfergus) taken by this member of the royal family.  
(a) Prince Charles (b) Queen Elizabeth (c) Prince Andrew (d) Prince William
5. A stamp (#237) depicting Wartburg Castle, where Martin Luther spent time in exile during the 1520s, was produced by this European country in 1923.  
(a) Austria (b) Czechoslovakia (c) Switzerland (d) Germany
6. Set in mountainous terrain, Gutenberg Castle is the subject of four 1981 stamps (#718-721) from this small European state in which it is located.  
(a) Andorra (b) Liechtenstein (c) San Marino (d) Switzerland
7. This impressive castle in the Dordogne Department of France, which had its origin as a medieval fortress and is noted today largely for its extensive formal gardens, is depicted on a 1969 French stamp (#1243). It is  
(a) Chateau d’ Angers (b) Commarque Castle (c) Chateau de Beynac (d) Chateau de Hautefort
8. Germany’s Nazi Party congress of 1934 was celebrated that year with stamps (#442-443) which depicted a castle in the host city, which was  
(a) Nuremberg (b) Berlin (c) Hamburg (d) Munich
9. More castles have been featured on the stamps of this country than any other, just one of them being Balsareny Castle on a 1967 issue (#1479).  
(a) Great Britain (b) Spain (c) France (d) Hungary
10. Heidenreichstein Castle, which dates back to the 12<sup>th</sup> century, appears on a 1957 ten schilling stamp from this European nation.  
(a) Germany (b) Austria (c) Switzerland (d) Belgium
11. This famous and much photographed Emerald Isle castle is depicted on a 2004 Irish stamp (#1543).  
(a) Cahir (b) Blarney (c) Ross (d) Aughnanure

12. Made famous by William Shakespeare as Hamlet's castle "Elsinore," the massive Kronborg Castle at Helsingor appears on several stamps (#156, 459, 783) of this country in which it is located.

- (a) Norway    (b) Great Britain    (c) Sweden    (d) Denmark

The October quiz is worth 120 **Auction Bucks**. Please complete the quiz and give your answers to **Betty Mudge** at the next in-person meeting or email to: [postboyquiz@renotamp.org](mailto:postboyquiz@renotamp.org)

**Sept. Quiz Answers:** 1. c 2. b 3. d 4. c 5. d  
6. c 7. b 8. a 9. c 10. d 11. c 12. b 13. c

## Vassar Post Office Display By John Walter

October is always an easy month for material to display at the main post office in Reno. The display frame on the left has mounted stamps to celebrate National Stamp Collecting Month.

The frame on the right has covers to inform everyone of Nevada Day, Oct. 31, which is the day Nevada became a state in 1864.

